

MEETING OF

THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, January 12, 2005, with the following members in attendance:

Robert F. Garey, Chairman	Michael T. Scuse, Secretary of Agriculture
William Vanderwende, Vice Chairman	Jack Markell, State Treasurer
Lyn Davenport, Secretary	Kevin Coyle (representing John Hughes, Secretary of DNREC)
Dennis Clay, Treasurer	Alden Hopkins

Absent: Theodore P. Bobola, Jr.

The following staff members were in attendance: Michael McGrath, Mark Davis, Howard Mesick, Robin West, Milton Melendez, and Cathy Mesick.

Others in attendance: F. Michael Parkowski, Mr. Phil Tuthill, Mr. Claude Lynch, Mr. Graham Bingham, Ms. Adrienne Paterson, Mr. Bruce Walton, Mr. Al Thompson, Mr. Thomas Zolna, Mr. Richard D. Galster, Jr., Mr. Joseph Santowski, and Mr. William Elliott.

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. with prayer.

I. Progress Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that we have a total of 588 farms in preservation districts totaling 137,060 acres, with a total of 411 farms under agricultural easements totaling 76,856 acres at a cost of \$90,278,185. In PDR Round 10 we currently have received applications for 101 farms with a total of 10,521 acres.

Jack Markell wanted to know how much of that 10,521 acres would have development rights purchased. Michael McGrath estimated 7,000 acres, which is approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the total acreage of 10,521.

Jack Markell asked that an average cost per acre for each round be done and wanted information on the Vermont Farmland Preservation Program's funding sources. Michael Scuse informed the Board that the Governor is very interested in getting a dedicated source of funding for farmland preservation.

II. Expansion Eligibility/Final Approval:

1. Matsko Expansion of the Webber-Harrison District, ID#K-04-12-054J After discussion, **Jack Markell moved to accept the Matsko Expansion of the Webber-Harrison District for eligibility and final approval, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**
2. Wood II Expansion of the Dempsey District, ID#K-04-10-168B. After discussion, **Dennis Clay moved to accept the Wood II Expansion of the Dempsey District for eligibility and final approval, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**
3. Mahaffey Expansion of the Webber-Harrison District, ID#K-04-12-054I. After discussion, **Dennis Clay moved to accept the Mahaffey Expansion of the Webber-Harrison District for eligibility and final approval, seconded by Jack Markell. Motion unanimously approved.**
4. Good Earth Expansion of the Beaver Creek Farms District, ID#S-04-06-093D. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept the Good Earth Expansion of the Beaver Creek Farms District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

III. Public Comments – No comments were received.

- IV. Minutes – Chairman Garey asked if there were additions or corrections to the December 8, 2004 minutes. Receiving no additions or corrections to the minutes, **William Vanderwende moved the minutes be approved, seconded by Dennis Clay. Motion unanimously approved.**

V. Financial Highlights

Cathy Mesick informed the Foundation Board that we had, as of December 31, 2005, \$17,882.01 in the Foundation's checking account. The Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account had a balance of \$267,523.60. Revenue for the month of December totaled \$25,903.77 from New Castle County Rollback taxes. Expenditures for the month of December totaled \$7,849.49. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept the Financial Report as presented, motion seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

Cathy Mesick also presented a memorandum requesting the transfer of \$500.00 from the Insurance budget to the Office Supplies & Expenses budget. This money will not be required in the Insurance budget and will not change the total FY'05 Foundation budget. After discussion, **Jack Markell moved to allow the transfer of funds, Seconded by Dennis Clay. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. Executive Session

Michael Parkowski indicated that no executive session was necessary. Mr. Parkowski then inquired about the responses from the Counties concerning match funds. Michael McGrath informed the Board that Kent County will be providing \$250,000, Sussex County \$300,000, and we should be hearing from New Castle County in March.

VII. Other Business

1. John D. Vincent ID#S-96-03-071-1, Littlefield District – Telecommunications Tower.

Mr. Thomas Zolna presented the request for the telecommunications tower and explained that it was necessary for reliable coverage for the Broadkill area. After discussion and questions, **William Vanderwende moved to accept this request for a telecommunications tower, seconded by Dennis Clay. Motion unanimously approved.**

2. Samuel Pritchett ID#N-04-06-095D, Pritchett Expansion of the Reynolds District – Transmission Storage/ Staging Facility.

Mr. Richard Galster, Jr. and Mr. Joseph Santowski presented the request for the storage/staging facility. After discussion and questions, **Jack Markell moved to accept this request for a transmission storage/Staging Facility when two changes are made in the agreement, one, there needs to be a provision for the restoration of the land after the facility is no longer in use, and, two, there needs to be a deadline for the use of the facility; seconded by Lyn Davenport. Motion unanimously approved.**

3. Mr. Graham Bingham and Mr. Al Thompson presented the new Foundation data base. Mr. Thompson introduced Mr. William Elliott who will be doing surveying in conjunction with Thompson Mapping..

4. Secretary Scuse waived his veto for the 4 Expansion properties which were approved for eligibility and final approval.

VIII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation, the meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on March 9, 2005 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, beginning at

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8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyn Davenport
Secretary